

## Message Text

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13  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01

USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 /030 W  
----- 017945

R 170706Z AUG 76  
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7606  
INFO USIA WASHDC  
AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

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STATE FOR EUR/SOV, USIA FOR IEU, LENINGRAD FOR P&C

E.O. 11652: NA  
TAGS: PROP SOPN UR US  
SUBJECT: SOVIET PAPER CONTINUES ATTACK AGAINST US CORRESPONDENTS

REF: MOSCOW 10699

1. LITERATURNAYA GAZETA EDITION OF AUGUST 11 CARRIED LENGTHY ARTICLE ATTACKING PETER OSNOS, MOSCOW CORRESPONDENT FOR WASHINGTON POST. ARTICLE IS SIGNED BY E. ELINGULASHVILI, LITGAZ CORRESPONDENT IN TBILISI, AND COMPLAINS ABOUT RECENT OSNOS STORY ON GEORGIA PUBLISHED IN WASH POST. ELINGULASHVILI SAYS WASH POST JOINS OTHER WESTERN PRESS IN "ATTEMPTING TO DISTORT THE ESSENCE AND MEANING OF THE SOCIO-POLITICAL PROCESSES TAKING PLACE" IN GEORGIA. OSNOS IS PORTRAYED AS A JOURNALIST WHO SAW ONLY SADNESS AND REPRESSION IN GEORGIA WHICH ANY REPORTER WHO IS NOT "UNFRIENDLY AND PREJUDICED" CAN SEE IS NOT TRUE. LITGAZ CONCLUDES THAT THE OSNOS ARTICLE "CONTAINS ONLY PERSONAL AND ARBITRARILY INTERPRETED INFORMATION FROM OUR OWN PRESS AND IDLE CONJECTURES FROM THE STREET-GOSSIPERS WHO ARE READY TO OFFER INFORMATION TO SUIT ANY TASTE".

2. COMMENT: ON THE SURFACE THERE IS NOTHING UNUSUAL IN THE LITGAZ ATTACK ON OSNOS; THIS APPEARS TO BE A RATHER STANDARD LAMENT AGAINST HEADLINE-SEEKING WESTERN JOURNALISTS WHO TURN TO THE VOCAL MINORITY  
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(EVIDENCE THAT NONCONFORMITY IS PERMITTED IN THE USSR) AND THEREBY

DISTORT THE TRUE SITUATION (WHICH ANY OBJECTIVE REPORTER CAN READILY  
SEE IS "PEACHY"). IF OSNOS, WHO EARLIER WAS RIDICULED BY LITGAZ FOR  
DEFENDING ALFRED FRIENDLY, IS DEALT WITH IN THE OLD FASHION, PERHAPS  
LITGAZ IS MOVING AWAY FROM THE SPY STORIES. STOESSEL

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESS COMMENTS, JOURNALISTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 17 AUG 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** MartinML  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976MOSCOW12935  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D760315-0057  
**From:** MOSCOW  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
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**Line Count:** 65  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION EUR  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
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**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 76 MOSCOW 10699  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** MartinML  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 07 MAY 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <07 MAY 2004 by ElyME>; APPROVED <01 SEP 2004 by MartinML>  
**Review Markings:**

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EO Systematic Review  
04 MAY 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** SOVIET PAPER CONTINUES ATTACK AGAINST US CORRESPONDENTS  
**TAGS:** PROP, SOPN, UR, US, (OSNOS, PETER)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006